

Deschutes National Forest

2014 Botany Program Accomplishments

Threatened, Endangered and Sensitive Plants/Survey & Manage:

- Completed ISSSP-funded surveys for high elevation sensitive and strategic bryophytes in Wilderness Areas.
- Crescent District completed 4,958 acres of botanical surveys.
- Worked with Regional Botanists, Fremont-Winema NF and researchers to investigate declining pumice moonwort populations. Purchased soil moisture & temperature sensors to gather data. (*Bend/Ft. Rock*).
- Completed monitoring for Peck's penstemon (*Sisters*), pumice moonwort (*Bend/Ft. Rock, Crescent*), and green-tinged paintbrush (*Bend/Ft. Rock*).
- Botany analysis and reports prepared for many projects including Newberry Geothermal Consent to Lease EA, Marsh Vegetation Management, Recreation Residences, Special Use Permits, etc.
- Completed Bumblebee training by the Xerces Society and conducted Western Bumblebee surveys.
- Conducted surveys for Federal Candidate species, whitebark pine.
- Completed fall and spring surveys for S&M fungi for Kew project (*Bend/Ft. Rock*)

Conservation Education – too many to list, highlights include:

- LaPine Outdoor Adventure Days (reached 875 children, *Crescent*).
- Numerous Glaze Forest Restoration Field Tours to discuss the groundbreaking collaboration and forest ecology of the area (*Sisters*).
- Participated in 1st Deschutes NF Young Women's Career Camp (*Bend/Ft. Rock, Sisters*).
- Hosted Caldera Intern Field Day to recruit interns (*Sisters*).
- Tumalo School Field Day (*Bend/Ft. Rock*).

Unique Plants and Habitats:

- ISSSP-funded monitoring of fens on Okanogan-Wenatchee & Wallowa-Whitman NFs, and Klamath Resource Area BLM (*Rick Dewey*).
- Analysis/briefings for Whychus & Metolius Wild and Scenic River Plan Implementation (*Sisters*).
- Developed pollinator gardens at local elementary school (*Bend/Ft. Rock*).

Other:

- Organized/hosted Regional Botany, Invasive Plant & Native Plant Restoration Program Meeting, May 2014. Deschutes Botanists gave presentations on fen monitoring, partnerships, contracts, unique & rare species, and led tour of Deschutes Headquarters native plant landscaping.



Figure 3. Crescent Botany Tech, Michael Russell, conducts western bumblebee surveys, a R6 listed Sensitive Species. Western bumblebee photo by Stephen Ausmus, USDA ARS.



Figure 1. Nicole Amato, Amanda DeVall and others monitor a high elevation pumice moonwort (left) population.



Figure 2. Botanists and volunteers set up monitoring for Peck's penstemon (left) to determine grazing effects.

2014 Accomplishments

Funding = \$60,700 (\$32,000 NFWF; \$28,700 NFWW)
TES/S&M plant surveys (4,993 ac.)
TES plant monitoring (10 ac.)
Habitat Restoration (5 ac. + 6,437 ac. Weed treatments)
These accomplishments funded by CMLG, NFIM, NFTM, NFRW, NFWF, NFWW, WFHF.

Partners: Bend, Sisters, La Pine, & Gilchrist Schools, National Forest Foundation, The Nature Conservancy, Whychus Friends of the Forest, Friends of the Metolius, Wolfree, Western Stewardship Science Institute, Deschutes Basin Land Trust, Youth Conservation Corps, FS Ecology Group, Sisters Trail Alliance, City of Sisters, Deschutes Forest Collaborative, Oregon Wild, Great Old Broads for Wilderness.

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